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## ABSTRACT

Because a teacher who demonstrates a love of literature and reading is a valuable model for children, a study determined the knowledge of children's and adolescent literature of students enrolled in a graduate reading methods course. A questionnaire entitled "What's Your Literature Quotient?" was administered to 72 teachers concerning knowledge of Newbery-Award-winning books and 126 teachers were surveyed concerning knowledge of Caldecott-Award-winning books. Subjects were asked to identify a book's title based on a brief descriptive phrase. Results indicated that 108 of the 126 respondents (85.7%) correctly identified "Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears," and 51 of the 72 respondents (70.8%) correctly identified "Sarah, Plain and Tall." The two questionnaires and compilations of data (indicating the rank ordering of titles receiving correct responses) are attached. (RS)

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What's Your Literature Quotient?  
Dan T. Ouzts

There are a number of ways to use literature as part of reading instruction, but the first step for any teacher who wishes to prepare for literature-based reading instruction is to become familiar with the diverse and ever expanding world of children's literature (Cullinan, 1987).

Almost overnight teachers have been asked to become children's literature experts, knowing the perfect book for every situation, every reader, and every curriculum area (Richards, 1994). And, not just the perfect book, but an extensive repertoire of perfect books. Teachers must also appreciate and demonstrate excitement about the literature they use in their classrooms. A teacher who demonstrates a love for literature and reading is a valuable model for children. Teachers should never hesitate to show that they love books and written language. Literature is an adventure and those teachers who work with children have the privilege and responsibility of guiding them on an unforgettable journey that will last forever.

In order to determine knowledge of children and young adult literature, two separate research questions were asked of graduate students enrolled in graduate reading education courses. The questions were ones of what are the Newbery and Caldecott books. After responding to these two questions, a questionnaire entitled "What's Your Literature Quotient?" was administered to 72 teachers concerning knowledge of the Newbery Books. A separate questionnaire was administered to 126 teachers concerning knowledge of the Caldecott Books. (Please see Analysis, nb6894 (Newbery 1968-1994) and Analysis 3894 (Caldecott 1938-1994)).

An analysis of the two questionnaires revealed books known and unknown by the two samples. See results of the questionnaires and rank-ordered titles.

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## References

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program. Newark, Delaware: International Reading Association.

Richards, P.O.(1994). Thirteen steps to becoming a children's  
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\_\_\_\_\_nb6894

\_\_\_\_\_cd3894

### What's Your Literature Quotient?

Dan T. Ouzts

\_\_\_\_\_(This is your assigned number).

DIRECTIONS: Do not place your name on these forms. A number has been assigned to you and that number appears on the line above. It is important that you remember your assigned number. Please write this number in a secure place now.

On the following pages descriptors/clues are given from books. Read the descriptors/clues and write the title of the book from which those descriptors/clues are given on the provided lines.

cd3894

<u>DESCRIPTOR/CLUE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
1. A picture book of creatures in the Old Testament, the Psalms and the Gospels	_____
2. After spending an eventful day at the fair held on New Year's Eve, a little Chinese girl arrives home just in time to greet the Kitchen God	_____
3. A stove-top hat and the Emancipation Proclamation	_____
4. I am proud of my mother and my father and their mothers and fathers and I am proud of the country that they helped to build	_____
5. Jack, Kack, Lack, Mack, Nack, Quack, Pack and Quack	_____
6. A house that could not be sold for gold or silver and eventually becomes a house in the city	_____
7. The Princess Lenore wants the moon, and when she gets it, she will be well again	_____
8. Bless other children, far and near and keep them safe and free from fear	_____
9. A book of 26 American rhymes and jingles	_____
10. A small piece of land in the ocean becomes personified/a part of the world and a world of its own	_____
11. White snow, bright snow, smooth and deep....Light snow, night snow, quiet as sleep.....Down, down, without a sound; Down, down, to the frozen ground	_____
12. Snow, snow, nothing but snow and the birds and the animals of the hill were very hungry	_____

<u>DESCRIPTOR/CLUE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
13. Saint Joseph's Day and the return of many birds	_____
14. Dyeing eggs and placing the eggs on a tree	_____
15. "Whose bone is it?"	_____
16. Better a bear in the orchard than an Orchard in the bear	_____
17. A girl named Madeline falls into the Seine River and is rescued by a dog called Genevieve	_____
18. Do not stay a moment after midnight If you do, your coach will turn back into a pumpkin	_____
19. A frog and a rat get married and go to France	_____
20. Trees make everything beautiful	_____
21. It is a time of wonder-for wondering, for instance: where do hummingbirds go in a hurricane?	_____
22. "Never again shall you with your flattery get me to sing with my eyes closed."	_____
23. A star pinata for a little Mexican girl named Ceci for her posada	_____
24. Old Russian woman and the Holy Child	_____
25. Mouse→cat→dog→royal tiger→mouse	_____
26. New snowfall and a little Black boy named Peter	_____
27. Max is sent to bed without his supper and his room becomes a magical place of wild things	_____

<u>DESCRIPTOR/CLUE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
28. A king and a queen invite a boy to their house and he brings many animals	
29. Lacklie MacLacklan, his wife, and ten bairns and room galore	
30. A girl named Samantha, or Sam, has a vivid imagination that constantly runs wild	
31. Corporal Farrell brought the barrel, Private Parriage brought the carriage, but Drummer Hoff fired it off	
32. A fool who seeks his fortune and marries the Czar's daughter by making a flying ship	
33. A donkey who disappears	
34. Ananse the Spiderman	
35. A fox who lost his tail and had to perform tasks to regain his tail	
36. A runaway dumpling	
37. At your service, Duffy my dear, said the devil	
38. A Pueblo Indian tale of a boy who became an arrow in search of his father	
39. What the mosquito told the iguana	
40. 26 African tribes from A to Z	
41. Wordless book of the 40 day storm	
42. A Native American girl who becomes a horse at death	
43. An ox cart filled with family-made goods	

cd3894

<u>DESCRIPTOR/CLUE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
44. Fables with each having a moral	_____
45. A jungle journey	_____
46. African storytelling and images cast by shadows	_____
47. Louis Blériot and his flight across the English Channel	_____
48. George the Red-Cross Knight and Una	_____
49. The bell rings for those who believe	_____
50. Island in the sky with beautiful birds becomes a temporary home for a janitor and his dog	_____
51. Owling	_____
52. Dancing in the attic	_____
53. Chinese Red Riding Hood	_____
54. Udder Chaos/Holstein Cows	_____
55. Flying frogs	_____
56. The Great Bellini	_____
57. Love of two lands-Japan and the United States	_____



## ANALYSIS

126 respondents

1. Five media specialists
2. Four RR Teachers
3. One Principal
4. One Assistant Principal
5. Forty-three Chapter 1 Teachers
6. Seventy-two Classroom Teachers(grades 1-5)

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u>
1. Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears	108	85.7%
2. Where the Wild Things Are	95	75.3%
3. The Polar Express	[93]	73.8%
4. Many Moons	[93]	73.3%
5. Sylvester and the Magic Pebble	92	73.0%
6. A Snowy Day	[90]	71.0%
7. Madeline's Rescue	[90]	71.0%
8. Cinderella or The Little Glass Slipper	89	70.6%
9. Jumanji	[81]	64.2%
10. Make Way for Ducklings	81	64.2%
11. Sam, Bangs and Moonshine	[81]	64.2%
12. The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses	[81]	64.2%
13. Arrow to the Sun	81	64.2%
14. Fables	[78]	61.9%
15. Shadow	[78]	61.9%
16. Tuesday	72	57.1%
17. Owl Moon	72	57.1%
18. Frog Went A-Courtin'	72	57.1%
19. Hey, Al	72	57.1%
20. Ashanti to Zulu	72	57.1%
21. Abraham Lincoln	72	57.1%
22. One Fine Day	72	57.1%
23. Noah's Ark	72	57.1%
24. May I Bring a Friend	72	57.1%
25. Ox-Cart Man	TITLES 25 THROUGH 49 HAD 61 OR FEWER CORRECT RESPONSES OR 48.4% OR LESS	
26. Mei Li		
27. White Snow, Bright Snow		
28. The Little House		
29. The Egg Tree		
30. The Big Snow		
31. Song of the Swallows		
32. Nine Days to Christmas		
33. Babousha and the Three Kings		
34. Once a Mouse		
35. Always Room for One More		
36. The Fool of the World and the Flying Ship		
37. A Story A Story		
38. The Funny Little Woman		
39. Duffy and the Devil		
40. Drummer Hoff		

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<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u>
41. The Glorious Flight	61 OR FEWER CORRECT	
42. Saint George and the Dragon	RESPONSES OR 48.4%	
43. Chanticleer and the Fox	OR LESS	
44. Animals of the Bible		
45. Song and Dance Man		
46. Lon PoPo		
47. Mirette on the High Wire		
48. Black and White		
49. Grandfather's Journey		
*****		
50. They Were Strong and Good	ITEMS 50-57 WERE NOT	
51. Prayer for A Child	RESPONDED TO.	
52. The Rooster Crows		
53. The Little Island		
54. Finders Keepers		
55. The Biggest Bear		
56. A Tree is Nice		
57. Time of Wonder		

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\_\_\_\_\_(This is your assigned number).

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<u>DESCRIPTOR/CLUE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
1. Claudia runs away and lives at the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art	<hr/> <hr/>
2. An epic type book set in the land of Pyrdain	<hr/> <hr/>
3. Poor Black sharecroppers and a faithful coon dog	<hr/> <hr/>
4. A mentally retarded younger brother named Charlie	<hr/> <hr/>
5. Super rats	<hr/> <hr/>
6. Her Eskimo name is Miyax	<hr/> <hr/>
7. A 13 year old white boy is forced to join the crew of a slave ship and "dance" the slaves	<hr/> <hr/>
8. Mayo Cornelius Higgins	<hr/> <hr/>
9. Will Stanton tries to find the golden harp to awaken the ancient sleepers	<hr/> <hr/>
10. Cassie Logan, a girl reared by a proud and independent Black family	<hr/> <hr/>

DESCRIPTOR/CLUETITLE

11. The secret land of Leslie and Jess
12. Sixteen heirs to the Sam Westing estate
13. A 14 year old New Hampshire girl keeps a journal for two years and during this time her father remarries and her best friend dies
14. Chesapeake life of Caroline and Louise
15. A book of poems about life at an imaginary inn run by William Blake
16. Dicey, James, Maybeth and Sammy Tillerman
17. Journal writing of Leigh Botts to his favorite author
18. Aerin, with the guidance of the wizard Luthe and with the help of the blue sword, wins the birthright due her as the daughter of a Damarian King
19. A mail-order bride from Maine
20. Prince Brat and Jemmy

<u>DESCRIPTOR/CLUE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
21. 16th president "in pictures"	_____ _____
22. Celebration of insect life and insect poetry	_____ _____
23. Danish Jews escape/Copenhagen 1943	_____ _____
24. Jeffrey Lionel was always running	_____ _____
25. A lost beagle, Marty Preston and Judd Travers	_____ _____
26. Aunt May, Uncle Ob, Summer and Cletus	_____ _____
27. Ceremony of Twelve, Jonas and Gabriel	_____ _____

## ANALYSIS

72 respondents

1. 18 M.Ed. in Reading
2. 31 MS/HS Teachers
3. 23 MAT(Required to take Teaching Reading in the Secondary School and some had taken Adolescent Literature)

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u>
1. Sarah, Plain and Tall	51	70.8%
2. Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH	45	62.5%
3. Sounder	[37]	51.3%
4. Bridge to Terabithia	[37]	51.3%
5. Jacob Have I Loved	36	50.0%
6. Summer of the Swans	21	33.3%
7. M.C. Higgins, The Great	18	25.0%
8. Dear Mr. Henshaw	[15]	20.8%
9. Julie of the Wolves	[15]	20.8%
10. Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry	[14]	19.4%
11. Number the Stars	[14]	19.4%
12. A Gathering of Days	13	18.0%
13. The Whipping Boy	12	16.6%
14. The Westing Game	[8]	11.1%
15. Maniac Magee	[8]	11.1%
16. The Slave Dancer	[8]	11.1%
17. Dicey's Song	7	9.7%
18. Lincoln: A Photobiography	[3]	4.1%
19. Joyful Noise	[3]	4.1%
20. Shiloh	[3]	4.1%
21. Missing May	2	2.7%
22. From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs Basil E. Frankweiler	0	0%
23. The High King	0	0%
24. The Grey King	0	0%
25. William Blake's Inn	0	0%
26. The Hero and the Crown	0	0%
27. The Giver	0	0%

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You will have to visit a library or do some "hunting" to find the answers to these literature questions. Some are from children's books and some are from young adult fiction books.

1. How many men were in the book Drummer Hoff?
2. What state was Sarah of Sarah, Plain and Tall from?
3. Who has won three Caldecott awards?
4. Who has won two Caldecott awards?
5. What was Sylvester's last name of Sylvester and the Magic Pebble?
6. He was always running and was from Bridgeport?
7. A Newbery medal winner and a Caldecott Honor book?
8. 4:38 A.M.?
9. A janitor named Al and his dog Eddie?
10. whoo-who-who-who-who-o-o-o-o-o?

1. Viola Swamp?
2. Wilber?
3. I think I'll move to Australia?
4. Thomas J., Carlie and Harvey?
5. Friendly, West Virginia?
6. Margaret?
7. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday?
8. Purple cat?
9. Boy-Strength-of-Blue-Horses?
10. Clement Moore?

1. How many eggs did Charlotte lay?
2. Who was Cracker Jackson's friend?
3. What would be a skill learned/taught in Jumanji?
4. How many heirs were there in Sam Westing's fortune?
5. For which two books has Lois Lowry won the Newbery Medal?
6. Underline the titles of any Gary Paulsen books.....

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